

From the Director of Victim Services



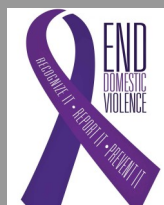
The COVID-19 pandemic and its ripple effect are changing the way we live. But one thing did not change – domestic violence. The number of domestic violence incidents in the US increased by 8.1% after lockdown orders, according to analysis released by the National Commission on COVID-19 and Criminal Justice (NCCCJ).

Domestic violence is not selfish and it affects every Tennessean. It harms our communities, weakens the foundation of our state, and hurts those we love most. Domestic violence is an indignity to our basic decency and humanity, and it must end. During National Domestic Violence Awareness month, we acknowledge the progress made in reducing these shameful crimes, embrace the basic human right to be free from violence and abuse, and recognize that more work remains until every individual is able to live free from fear.

This month, we recognize the survivors and victims of abuse across the state whose courage inspires us all. We should commit to offering a helping hand to those most in need, and remind them that they are not alone. We also remember those who lost their lives to domestic lives.

For anonymous, confidential help, 24/7, please call the **National Domestic Violence Hotline** at 1-800-799-7233 (SAFE) or 1-800-787-3224 (TTY).

Tamika Dobbins



October 2021

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Victim Services Mission

To support victims, their families, and the laws that protect their rights, while utilizing recognized principles of offender behavioral change to help reduce the risk of repeat criminal behavior.

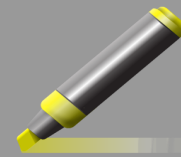
Victim Services Provides:

- Information regarding the status of offenders in prison with felony convictions
- Registration for victim notification
- Assistance with threats, unwanted calls/correspondence from an offender

Victim Services Activities:

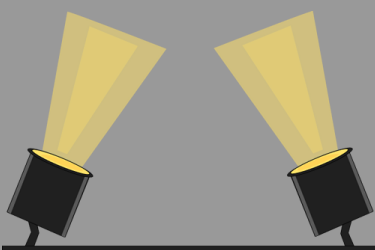
- Community education programs
- Coordination with the Board of Parole, Attorney General's Office, and the Tennessee District Attorney General's Office to respond to victims' concerns
- Education to TDOC staff to increase awareness of victims' issues
- Collaboration with other victim advocates

Victims Services Highlights....Let's meet



Azadeh Najafian is the assistant to CEO Cathy Gurley at You Have the Power...Know How to Use it, Inc (YHTP). Najafian will address internal and external needs that support You Have the Power's long-term strategies and outreach. She will help identify and research information needed for the agency's growth and functioning. Najafian will also be responsible for the agency's communications with agency partners, stakeholders and constituents.

Najafian received her bachelor's, master's, and Ph.D. degrees in Persian Literature from Shiraz University in Iran. She recently completed her Master of Arts in Folk Studies from Western Kentucky University. Najafian has worked at the Kentucky Museum, the South Union Shaker Village, and with the Tennessee Immigrant & Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC) as an assistant in English as a Second Language (ESL) classes.



Dobbins Present at the Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference: Victim Services Training in Chattanooga

The Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference was created by the General Assembly in 1961 to provide for a more prompt and efficient administration of justice in the courts of this state. The Conference is composed of both the District Attorneys General from the state's 31 judicial districts and the office of the Executive Director. Their primary job is to equip, support and advocate for the District Attorneys General as they work to administer justice and serve their communities.

All 31 District Attorneys General have staff dedicated to working with victims and witnesses of crime. Their primary mission is to help victims navigate the criminal justice system in a meaningful way and advocate for their voices to be heard.

TDOC Victim Services works closely with the Victim Witness Coordinators across the state. We collaborate often on copious victim related concerns including registration and notifications. Dobbins presented on the new electronic notification system, VINE (Victim Information & Notification Everyday) on Thursday October 21, 2021 at the Marriott in Chattanooga.

The county jails in Tennessee also use this service, SAVIN (Statewide Automated Victim Information & Notification). Now that TDOC is on the same electronic platform, when a victim has signed up through the jail's system and the offender is moved to TDOC, the offender records are linked and the victim does not have to re-register. VINE has been a great enhancement to the services we provide.



Tamika Dobbins, TDOC Victim Services



L to R:

Tracy Taylor, TN Attorney General Victim Liaison

Tamika Dobbins, TDOC Victim Services

Cathy Blakely, TBI Victim Coordinator

Purple with a Purple Day
October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Staff at the Tennessee Department of Correction Central Office got together for an annual group photo to show their support for victims of domestic violence on Wednesday October 6, 2021. Victim Coordinators and other staff across the state also wore purple on this day and photos taken and displayed on the next 2 pages.



BCCX Staff



BOP Central Office



TDOC Central Office



Cindy Jenkins, TDOC Wireless Device Manager



Aleshia Thompson, TDOC Education

Purple with a Purple Day
October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month



D6o Jackson



Holly B. Smith,
TDOC Education



D6o Somer-
ville



Anna Stewart, Director Risk/Needs
Assessments

Tamika Dobbins, Victim Services



D41 Nashville

Victim Services Monthly Statistics

Central Office Phone Calls

Telephone Calls	September
Phone calls Received/Returned	204
Parties Registered for Notifications (phone/mail/fax/email)	92
Harassment/Threats/No Contact	2
Referrals	45
Release/Parole Inquiry	84
Other	67

Central Office Mailed Notifications

Notifications Mailed	September
Registrations/Voice	90
Movement	84
Advance Release	307
Final Release *	33
Death	26
Other	4



Notification Statistics By Delivery Method Report 09-01-2021 to 09-30-2021

Agency	Month	Email	TTY	SMS	Phone	InApp	Letter	Total
TN Department of Correction	September 2021	4,883	2	10,474	2,340	194	2	17,895
	AGENCY TOTALS	4,883	2	10,474	2,340	194	2	17,895
	OVERALL TOTALS	4,883	2	10,474	2,340	194	2	17,895

New Registration Statistics By Registrant Classification 09-01-2021 to 09-30-2021

		Anonymous	Concerned citizen	Family member of offender	Family member of victim	Law enforcement	Not Reported	Other	Victim	Victim coordinator/advocate	Total
TN Department of Correction	September 2021	102	88	360	503	369	4,583	169	74	5	6,253
	AGENCY TOTALS	102	88	360	503	369	4,583	169	74	5	6,253
	OVERALL TOTALS	102	88	360	503	369	4,583	169	74	5	6,253

Announcements



YOU ARE INVITED
TO THE NINTH ANNUAL

Pearls & Pinstripes Gala

MASQUERADE PARTY

Benefiting
THE TENNESSEE COALITION TO END DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2021 at 6:00 PM
MUSIC CITY CENTER
NASHVILLE, TN

Dinner, Drinks, Entertainment, Auction
Music by "Burning Las Vegas"

Sponsored by **ISOLAREN**
RISK MANAGEMENT

coalition
Tennessee Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

Pearls & Pinstripes Gala

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL EVENING

PEARLS & PINSTRIPES 2021 LEADERSHIP

Rebecca Wells Demaree, Event Co-Chair
Micki Yearwood, Event Co-Chair
Kelly Holmes, Wine Grab Chair
Nancy Britt, Auction Chair
Katen Leonard, Sponsorship Chair
Anna-Vija McClain, Marketing Chair
Patricia Malone, Volunteer Chair

Tickets and information at tncoalition.org/pearls-pinstripes
Individual Tickets \$150

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#PearlsandPins21

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

AJAX TURNER **amazon**
QUALITY BEER | FINE WINE | CRAFT SPIRITS

Pinnacle
FINANCIAL SERVICES

COVID-19 Event Protocol
To ensure the health and wellness of attendees, masks and proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative rapid test will be required. Free rapid tests will be provided on-site by our presenting sponsor, Solaren Risk Management. We ask for your patience and understanding as we return to an in-person celebration.

Virtual Event

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE 19TH ANNUAL

TENNESSEE SEASON TO REMEMBER

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2021 AT 5:30 P.M.

LIVE STREAM THE EVENT:
www.youtube.com/FirstBaptistChurchNashville

WHAT YOU CAN DO IF YOU ARE A

VICTIM OF CRIME

WHAT VICTIMS CAN DO IF THEY'RE A

Tennessee Domestic Violence Hotline - 800-356-6767

National Domestic Violence Hotline - 800.799.SAFE

Battered Women's Justice Project - 800.903.0111

Mothers Against Drunk Driving - 877.MADD.HELP

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children - 800.843.5678

Tennessee Human Trafficking Hotline—1-855-558-6484

National Human Trafficking Hotline - 888.373.7888

Sexual Assault Center 24 Hour Crisis & Support: 1-866-811-RISE (7473)

**Stay Connected
With #TeamTDOC!**

Follow Us:

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Tennessee Department of Correction

Victim Services Division
5th Floor Rachel Jackson Building
320 6th Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37243
Phone: 615-253-8145
Fax: 615-741-1055
Email: Victim.Notification@tn.gov

Tamika Dobbins
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Tamika.Dobbins@tn.gov

Betsy Fletcher
Executive Secretary
Betsy.Fletcher@tn.gov